

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A shoulder rest for use with a violin or a violin-like instrument, the shoulder rest including an elongated, slightly curved base including two equal half portions, each half portion including an elongated, lengthwise extended, central channel, an enlarged hole at one end of the channel distal from one end of the base, a guide rail along either side of the base, and a rack rail at either side of the channel, and two equal half sections, each half section comprising:
  - clamping means for engaging with a side wall of a body of the violin, the clamping means comprising a downwardly extending threaded stem;
  - substantially L-shaped support means comprising a vertical bifurcation including a gradually enlarged opening, a substantially half-circular cavity, and two junctions between the gradually enlarged opening and the cavity, a horizontal foot portion having two side flanges, a projecting leg opposite the bifurcation, a transverse pin at an open end of the leg, the pin having a length about equal to a diameter of the enlarged hole, a pair of latched members projected from an underside of the foot portion, and two spaced toothed stops at both sides of the latched members; and
  - disk-shaped pivotal means comprising a body member having a top hole for threadedly receiving the stem, a snapping element in spaced, parallel relationship with the body member wherein a distance between the snapping element and the body member is about a thickness of the bifurcation, and a cylindrical enlargement interconnected centers of the body member and the snapping element, the enlargement being rotatably fitted in the cavity with the bifurcation being sandwiched by the body member and the snapping element,
- whereby inserting the pin through the enlarged hole, and pressing the support means to insert the latched members through the channel for slidably fastening thereat with the flanges being mounted to the guide rails and the

stops being engaged with teeth of the rack rail will enabling the support means to move along the channel.

2. The shoulder rest of claim 1, wherein a spacing between any two adjacent teeth of the rack rail is about 2mm.

5 3. The shoulder rest of claim 1, wherein the pivotal means further comprises a ridge extended from the enlargement to a periphery of the body member, the ridge being parallel with the top hole, interconnected the body member and the snapping element, having a length of about radius of the snapping element, and being capable of pivoting clockwise or counterclockwise a predetermined angle  
10 defined by edges of the gradually enlarged opening.

4. The shoulder rest of claim 1, wherein the pivotal means further comprises a downward, rectangular extension integrally formed with the snapping element, the extension being capable of pivoting clockwise or counterclockwise a predetermined angle defined by the flanges.

15 5. The shoulder rest of claim 1, wherein the enlarged hole is about circular.

6. The shoulder rest of claim 1, wherein a distance between the junctions is smaller than a diameter of the cavity.

7. The shoulder rest of claim 1, wherein the pin is perpendicular to the leg.

8. The shoulder rest of claim 5, wherein the channel has a width less than a  
20 diameter of the enlarged hole.

9. The shoulder rest of claim 1, further comprising a plurality of calibration marks along an inner side of one rack rail.

10. The shoulder rest of claim 9, wherein the calibration marks are numerals.

11. The shoulder rest of claim 9, wherein the calibration marks are letters.

25